

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent 7,031,942 to Ogino et al. (herein "Ogino"). That rejection is traversed by the present response as discussed next.

Applicants respectfully submit the outstanding rejection is misunderstanding the disclosures in Ogino relative to the claims as written.

Independent claim 1 as written, and with reference to Figure 1 in the specification as a non-limiting example, is directed to a contents copying management system that connects a contents copying apparatus 2A and a copying management device 3 by a network 4.

In independent claim 1 as written, a "medium identifying information acquiring means" acquires "medium identification information specific to and *characterizing* a recorded-contents carrying original *recording medium*" (emphasis added). That is, according to that claim feature the recording medium carrying contents is identified, see also for example the present specification at page 20, line 9 et seq. Further, according to independent claim 1 an "apparatus *identifying* information acquiring means" acquires "apparatus identifying information specific to and indicating said *contents copying apparatus* itself" (emphasis added). According to such a claim feature, and again with reference to Figure 1 in the present specification as a non-limiting example, the actual apparatus, such as the DVD player 2A, is identified, see also the present specification for example at page 20, line 9 et seq.

Then, according to the claim 1 as currently written, the acquired medium identifying information, which again identifies the recording medium on which contents are recorded, and the apparatus identifying information, which again indicates the copying apparatus which is copying the original recording medium, are combined into "copying-related combination

information” and ***transmitted*** to the copying management device, again see management server 3 in Figure 1 in the present specification as a non-limiting example.

Thereby, with the above-noted claim features two different pieces of specific information are acquired and sent to a copying management device that can control copying of contents on a recording medium; those two specific pieces of information are (1) an identification of the recording medium including the contents and (2) an identification of the apparatus that is to perform the copying. Applicants submit the above-noted features clearly reflected in independent claim 1 are neither taught nor suggested by Ogino, and that the outstanding rejection is misconstruing the teachings in Ogino and/or not properly understanding claim 1 as discussed above.

With respect to the above-noted claim features the outstanding rejection cites Ogino specifically stating:

- Medium identifying information acquiring means for acquiring medium identifying information specific to and characterizing a recorded-contents-carrying original recording medium (Abstract, col. 1, ll. 41-50 and col.2, ll. 28-42, where a recording medium is described).
- Apparatus identifying information acquiring means for acquiring apparatus identifying information specific to and indicating said contents copying apparatus itself (Abstract, col. 1, ll. 15-21 and col. 18, ll. 21-34, where a copying or reproducing apparatus is described).
- Copying-related combination information transmitting means for transmitting said medium identifying information and said apparatus identifying information to said copying management device as copying-related combination information at the time of copying said contents (Abstract, col. 1, ll. 22-30 and 41053, where copy control information which is additive information being attached to main information signals that are digital signals from the CDs or DVDs, to be transmitted via network in order to prevent copying of contents).

In addressing the above-noted bases for the rejection, first applicants note the cited disclosures in Ogino at the Abstract, column 1, lines 41-50 and column 2, lines 28-48 are not

even related to acquiring information identifying a recording medium including contents. Those noted disclosures in Ogino disclose copying control information can be added to content signals, but does not disclose or suggest the device of Ogino actually *identifying the recording medium* on which contents are recorded.

Further, the above-noted passages in Ogino with respect to identifying the copying apparatus itself at the Abstract, column 1, lines 15-21, and column 18, lines 21-34 are not directed to any such features. At those portions Ogino merely discloses the existence of an apparatus that can perform copying of contents. Those portions in Ogino do not disclose or suggest any operation in which an identification of the copying apparatus itself is obtained.

Further, in the claimed invention the information directed to (1) an identification of the recording medium including contents and (2) the copying apparatus itself are then combined and provided through a network to a copying management device. At the cited portions at the Abstract, column 1, lines 22-30, and 41-53 Ogino does not disclose or suggest any even similar features. Those noted passages in Ogino are merely directed to including copy control information with a main information signal, and disclose such main information signals can be provided via a network. However, the outstanding rejection appears to not be considering or understanding that in the claimed invention two specific pieces of information are provided through a network to a *separate copying management device*, those two separate pieces of information being (1) an identification of a recording medium including contents and (2) an identification of a copying apparatus itself that can copy the contents. Ogino does not disclose any even remotely similar features.

In view of the foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit it is clear that Ogino does not disclose or suggest at least any of the “medium identifying acquiring means”, “apparatus identifying information acquiring means”, and “copying-related combination

information transmitting means” as recited in independent claim 1, and thereby claims 2-8 dependent therefrom.

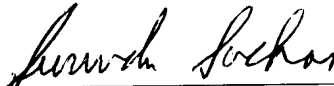
Moreover, each of claims 9-12 recite at least certain similar features as discussed above, and new claims 9-12 are thereby also believed to clearly distinguish over Ogino.

In view of the present response applicants respectfully submit claims 1-12 as currently written patentably define over Ogino.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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